

APPLICATION FOR

UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

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Be it known that I, Aaron S. Kureck, a citizen of the United States, residing at N41 W33247 Nashotah Rd., Nashotah WI 53058, have invented a new and useful "Control System and Method for an Overhead Bridge Crane."

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the control of overhead cranes, and more particularly, to a system and method for controlling the speed, direction, and braking of an electric overhead bridge traveling crane.

As shown in Fig. 6, a conventional overhead crane 200 typically includes a horizontal section known as a “bridge” 204 that moves the suspended load across a horizontal span 202 over the work area. Movement of the bridge 204 is provided by a reversible, variable-speed electric motor coupled by conventional electromechanical transmission components to the bridge 204. The speed and direction of the motor, in turn, is powered and controlled by a variable frequency motor drive (VFD).